

1995

# Annual report of the Student Rights and responsibilities Committee for 1994-95: Changes in the UNIVERSITY MANUAL

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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Serial Number #94-95--32

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND  
Kingston, Rhode Island  
FACULTY SENATE  
BILL

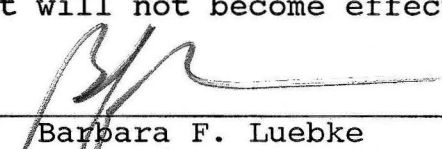
Adopted by the Faculty Senate

TO: President Robert L. Carothers

FROM: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

1. The attached BILL, titled Annual Report of the Student Rights and Responsibilities Committee for 1994-95: Changes in the UNIVERSITY MANUAL, is forwarded for your consideration.
2. The original and two copies for your use are included.
3. This BILL was adopted by vote of the Faculty Senate on May 11, 1995 (date)
4. After considering this bill, will you please indicate your approval or disapproval. Return the original or forward it to the Board of Governors, completing the appropriate endorsement below.
5. In accordance with Section 10, paragraph 4 of the Senate's By-Laws, this bill will become effective June 1, 1995, three weeks after Senate approval, unless: (1) specific dates for implementation are written into the bill; (2) you return it disapproved; (3) you forward it to the Board of Governors for their approval; or (4) the University Faculty petitions for a referendum. If the bill is forwarded to the Board of Governors, it will not become effective until approved by the Board.

May 12, 1995  
(date)

  
Barbara F. Luebke  
Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

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ENDORSEMENT

TO: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

FROM: President of the University

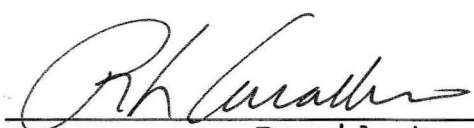
Returned.

a. Approved ✓.

b. Approved subject to final approval by Board of Governors \_\_\_\_\_.

c. Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_.

5.17.95  
(date)

  
President

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND  
Kingston, Rhode Island

FACULTY SENATE

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES COMMITTEE  
ANNUAL REPORT 1994-95

INTRODUCTION:

This committee's charge (Faculty Senate By-Laws, 4.35-4.37) involves periodic review of the policies and operations of the student judicial system and the Student Handbook. The committee works in cooperation with the Director of the Office of Student Life (OSL), who serves as an *ex officio* member of the committee. During the current academic year, the Office of Student Life brought several agenda items to the committee for consideration. Discussion of items resulted in the following recommendations for Faculty Senate approval.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the Faculty Senate amend sections 5.19.11 and 5.19.12 of the UNIVERSITY MANUAL which refer to the University Board on Student Conduct. The revised sections would read:

5.19.11 In hearing cases of alleged violations of non-academic community standards of behavior, the voting composition shall be six student members and one member appointed by the Faculty Senate. A quorum shall be four student members and one member appointed by the Faculty Senate. In hearing cases of alleged violations of academic community standards of behavior, the voting composition and the quorum shall be four faculty or faculty emeriti and three student members. Graduate student members of the board shall be voting members in an academic case only if the accused is a graduate student.

5.19.12 The Faculty Senate will identify six members to be considered as permanent conduct board members to hear both non-academic and academic cases. They shall hold the rank of faculty emeriti, assistant professor or assistant director or above and shall be appointed by the Chairperson of the Faculty Senate. Board responsibilities will be shared by these six individuals as described in 5.19.11.

Rationale: Since the spring of 1993, the Faculty Senate has had extreme difficulty finding faculty who are willing to fulfill the two year commitment to the committee. The UBSC meets on Thursday evenings and hears 6-10 cases per year. The proposed changes expand the pool of possible committee members to include emeriti faculty and staff members in the position of assistant director of above.

2. That the Faculty Senate amend the last sentence of section 9.26.10 of the UNIVERSITY MANUAL.

Current UNIVERSITY MANUAL Section 9.26.10:

9.26.10 Pending final action on violation of University regulations, the status of a student shall not be altered or his/her right to be present on the campus and to attend classes suspended, except for reasons of imminent danger to his/her physical or emotional safety or well-being or for reasons of imminent danger to the safety or well-being of the University community. The decision to separate a student from the campus under these conditions shall be made only by the President of the University after consultation with the Chairperson of the Faculty Senate and either the President of the Student Senate or the President of the Graduate Student Association. **If a student is separated from campus by this authority, the procedures outlined in section 9.21.10 shall be implemented within 10 class days after the separation to provide full due process for the student with all deliberate speed.**

Proposed change in the last sentence of 9.26.10:

If a student is separated from campus by this authority, an administrative hearing or a hearing before the Student Conduct Board must be held within 10 class days after the separation to provide full due process for the student with all deliberate speed. The student may request a hearing delay in writing. If a student is separated from campus by this authority, the student must remain separated until the hearing is held.

Rationale: A student should be able to choose the course of action. In serious cases where concurrent criminal charges exist, attorneys instruct their clients, our students, not to cooperate with the institution. This change would allow the campus community to be safe while encouraging cooperation between all parties concerned.

3. That the Faculty Senate change the composition and redefine the function of the Student Rights and Responsibilities Committee. The revised section 4.37 of the Senate By-Laws would read:

~~\* 4.37 The Student Rights and Responsibilities Committee will convene when the Faculty Senate receives a request to review policies related to student discipline and the judicial system. The Committee will be composed of four faculty, one of whom will serve as Chair, two undergraduates, one graduate student and the Director of Student Life (ex officio).~~

~~\*This change in the By-Laws of the Faculty Senate requires a 2/3 majority vote and may not be voted upon at the meeting at which it is first moved.~~

Institute will be housed in that building, but it is not expected that Coastal Institute programs will be limited to those that are housed there, nor should it be required that those who are must associate themselves 100% with the activities of the Coastal Institute.

Although the Coastal Institute may be involved in policy analysis, it is not a generator of policy or policy proposals. Fellows of the Coastal Institute and the organizations they represent may not be so constrained, but policy statements, as distinguished from policy analysis, should be made by Fellows in their private capacity or, if appropriate, on behalf of the organization they represent.

#### E. RESOURCES

The establishment of the Coastal Institute requires few resources but some exemptions from Board-approved University policies. It will require resources if it is to succeed, and this proposal offers a plan for how those resources can be generated.

1. Support for the Director, secretarial and other infrastructure support will come from the university and will be carried in the budget of the Vice Provost for Marine Programs. These funds will come from redistribution of existing funds.

2. Being a Fellow of the Coastal Institute or a member of the Council of Fellows does not imply financial support. For URI Fellows this translates as no "released time" for simply being associated with the Coastal Institute, although projects generated within the Coastal Institute may result in released time or other forms of support for those Fellows actively involved. There are no requests for new state supported faculty or staff positions in the Coastal Institute other than those noted in (1) above.

3. There is no financial support, formal or implied, between URI and those federal (NOAA, EPA and NPS/NBS) and state (DEM and CRMC) agencies associated with the Coastal Institute. However, if formal memoranda of understanding (MOU's) are developed between the University and DEM, NOAA, EPA or NPS/NBS, there will be nothing in the proposed MOU's that will preclude support for either general or specific projects mutually agreed upon. Such MOU's may simplify joint contractual understandings for mutually agreed programs of the Coastal Institute.

4. Just as there will be no guarantee of financial support from those agencies associated with the Coastal Institute, there will be no constraints on requests for support to other federal or state agencies or private organizations for programs that have received the approval of the Coastal Institute.

Return on overhead: Given the present inability of the University to provide significant new support for the Coastal Institute, we propose to use the same procedure that was so successful in the development of the Graduate School of Oceanography thirty years ago. For a seven year period, we

propose that after sponsored projects administration costs are addressed that 100% of all remaining overhead generated by projects and programs of the Coastal Institute be returned to the Vice Provost for Marine Programs. The Vice Provost will allocate a minimum of one quarter to the colleges and schools of the principal investigator(s) and a minimum of one quarter to the Director of the Coastal Institute for investment in the Coastal Institute. This investment can take many forms, for example, financing pilot projects, providing start-up funds, purchasing equipment, sponsoring seminars and paying for publications. The remaining funds will be retained by the Vice Provost and used to enhance the activities of other marine programs of the University. This additional overhead support for the Coastal Institute will continue for seven years, at which time this arrangement will be reviewed by the administration.

Because the University share of overhead is involved, this overhead arrangement will require action by the Board of Governors.

The 100% return on overhead to the Graduate School of Oceanography during its formative years was one of the prime reasons for its success. We believe a similar policy can play a similar role in the growth and success of the Coastal Institute. Given the lack of state funds to provide adequate financing of this new program, we see this proposal as the only way to get this important program launched.

#### F. EVALUATION

There are two formal modes of evaluation. One is the Executive Board (see C-3-d) that meets quarterly and is chaired by the Vice Provost for Marine Programs. The other is the Advisory Council (see C-3-e), chaired by the University Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. In addition there are two informal modes of evaluation. If over time faculty and staff lose interest and cease being Coastal Institute Fellows and if the Coastal Institute fails to generate sufficient outside support to prosper that is perhaps the best evaluation of all that the Coastal Institute is not healthy.

**Note:** The two faculty serving on the Social Regulations Committee may be invited to be on the Student Rights and Responsibilities Committee because of some overlap in the committee work.

**Rationale:** The Student Rights and Responsibilities Committee is a Faculty Senate Committee the purpose of which is to review policies related to student discipline and the judicial system. Generally, the committee only needs to meet when there are specific issues to be considered. The Student Rights and Responsibilities Committee composition may be unnecessarily large (6 faculty, 2 undergraduates, 1 graduate student, Director of Student Life (ex officio)).

It is very difficult to get faculty to serve on both the Student Rights and Responsibilities and the Social Regulations Committee. These committees have related business. The Social Regulations Committee is a University Committee defined in the UNIVERSITY MANUAL. Its purpose is to annually review all student non-academic regulations and policies for publication in the Student Handbook and to recommend appropriate modifications. It is composed of 2 faculty, 3 staff, and 5 students. The committee has yearly work and meets regularly, particularly in the Spring semester.

4. That the Faculty Senate approve the following changes in the UNIVERSITY MANUAL:
  - a. In the UNIVERSITY MANUAL there are references to the Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook and the Student Handbook which are the same publication.

Recommended Change: All references to this publication should be consistent and read - the Student Handbook.
  - b. Recommended Change: That the Student Handbook be published biannually.

Rationale: With shrinking budgets and rising costs publishing the Student Handbook every other year would save some money. The content of the community standards would still be monitored each year and reflect the changes in the community.

**Members of the Committee:**

J. Whitney Bancroft (RDE)  
Cheryl Foster (PHL)  
Musa Jouaneh (MCE)  
Karen Schroeder (HDF), Chair  
Gail Shea (SOC)  
Lanny Soderberg (EDC)  
Frances Cohen (OSL) ex officio  
Amy Long (Undergraduate Student)  
Nick Fassano (Undergraduate Student)

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND  
Kingston, Rhode Island

REPORT OF THE FACULTY SENATE LIBRARY COMMITTEE FOR 1994-95  
April 27, 1995

The Faculty Senate Library Committee has met several times over the last year. Members of the committee have discussed issues concerning the library and our interactions with the Library. We have met with the faculty of the Library and discussed with them what they feel are the areas of concern that should be addressed. Several issues were brought up that we as a committee felt were quite important. The Committee met with Provost Beverly Swan to discuss some of these concerns.

The following topics were discussed: (1) Why were the Faculty Senate Library Committee and the faculty of the Library not included as specific participants in the interview schedules of the candidates for the new position? (2) What will the distribution of the Library/Computer Use fees be in the future? Will there actually be some augmentation of the facilities of the Library that can be tied directly to this fee, like an increase in operating hours? (3) Where did the need for this new position come from? The 1993 report of the Committee on Libraries, Computers and Media suggested that we (URI) did not need a Chief Information Officer. (4) Do the budget cuts that the Library has suffered over the last several years come internally from our University administration? (5) What if anything is happening about the unfilled positions of the Library faculty? We did receive some good news about the next year's budget for Library acquisitions, it will increase back up to over \$2 million. The position of Vice Provost of Information and Dean of the Library was a fusion of two positions and is not considered to be a Chief Information Officer. The use of the Library/Computer use fee was only partially addressed in that it was what allowed the acquisition budget of the Library to increase from \$ 1.3 million this year to over \$ 2 million next year. There are still more questions than answers, but without movement in a positive direction for the general budget of the University, resolution seems unlikely in the near future.

**Members of the Committee:**

Sally Burke, ENG  
Catherine English, FSN  
Andrew Friedell, undergraduate student  
Mark Higgins, ACC  
Gerald Krausse, MAF  
Tom McMahon, undergraduate student  
John Preece, CMD  
Jay Sperry, BMMG, Chairperson  
Barbara Brittingham, ex officio